

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for boarding passengers when seats on a commercial airline flight flown by a commercial airline are overbooked, comprising the steps of:

storing passenger data for each passenger booked on said flight;

determining a number of passengers being overbooked and to be denied boarding;

determining denied boarding candidates for said flight, wherein said candidates comprise passengers without a seat and volunteers offering to give up their seat in exchange for an incentive;

for each determined denied boarding candidate, obtaining the corresponding passenger data including a frequent flyer status, a remaining flight ticket value, a rebooking cost, a passenger lifetime value, and customer relationship management data, and flight operations data including flight schedule and seat availability on the airline and competitor airlines;

processing the passenger data and the flight operations data based on a set of rules including at least one among a rule for arranging said determined denied boarding candidates according to a descending revenue impact to the airline, a rule for arranging said determined denied boarding candidates according to passenger frequent flyer status, and a rule for arranging said determined denied boarding candidates according to a lifetime value of each passenger; and

selecting passengers from the determined denied boarding candidates for boarding based on a result of the processing.

Appln No. 10/731,228
Amendment dated October 13, 2008
Reply to Office Action of September 3, 2008
Docket No. BOC9-2003-0042 (413)

2-26. (Cancelled).